

converted all the young people in a congregation to whom he preached, and many of the older ones. In eleven months he himself had baptized fifteen hundred."¹



HEBER C. KIMBALL

Heber City was named after him

This love of the British people for their mission leader was not soon forgotten and evidenced itself again and again throughout the Church.

Those who first colonized the new lands of Provo Valley in 1859 and 1860 had come under the influence of Elder Kimball in Great Britain, and when it came time to find a permanent name for their new settlement, the choice was easily made—they would name it for their beloved leader, Brother Heber.

Time has proved that these early colonizers made a wise choice, for Heber C. Kimball became one of the stalwarts in the Church. While many of the early Church leaders in the pre-Utah period had become disappointed and disaffected, Heber C. Kimball never faltered in his defense of the truth. Through persecutions, illness, difficult financial straits and through the good times as well, Elder Kimball continued strong and true to the end. This same spirit of determination and steadfastness has also characterized Heber City, for through bad times as well as good, the community has stood as a bulwark in the valley and as a refuge for those who love the "good life."

The first settlers in the valley, as noted in previous chapters, planted

¹John Henry Evans, *Joseph Smith, An American Prophet* (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1933, pages 99-100.)